

Abstract of the Disclosure

An imaging method and system are presented for use in automatic monitoring the body condition of an animal. A predetermined region of interest on the animal body is imaged, and data indicative of the acquired one or more images is processed to obtain a three-dimensional representation of the region of interest. The three-dimensional representation is analyzed to determine a predetermined measurable parameter indicative of a surface relief of the region of interest which is indicative of the body condition of the imaged animal. The technique of the present invention is useful for determining the energy balance condition of the animal (e.g., dairy cow) or the tendency in the energy balance change, to thereby enable appropriately adjusting nutrition of the specific animal; as well as for determining the existence of incoordination and/or locomotion in the animal's natural marching.